Syllabus for Math 443 / 538 – General Topology

Instructor: Stephen Semmes, HB 414, semmes@rice.edu.

Office hours: One can often find me in my office, or make an appointment.

Course objectives: Study of basic point set topology, as a vast generalization of metric spaces, and including some discussion of set theory.

Grading: Part of the grade in this class will be based on a series of homework assignments. The other part will be based on a project on a topic of the student's choosing, related to the subject of the course.

Absences: Although attendance is not directly included in the grading, students are of course responsible for all of the material covered in class.

Textbooks: B. Mendelson, *Introduction to Topology*, 3rd edition, Dover, 1990; T. Gamelin and R. Greene, *Introduction to Topology*, 2nd edition, Dover, 1999; I. Kaplansky, *Set Theory and Metric Spaces*, AMS Chelsea, 2001.

Examinations and papers: No examinations are expected in this course, and there will be one required project, in addition to the homework assignments, as above.

Assignments: No pledged assignments are expected in this course, and students are permitted to discuss the homework and their projects with each other.

Any student with a disability that requires accomodation is encouraged to contact the instructor and Disability Support Services in the Allen Center.

The information contained in this syllabus, other than the absence policy, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.